## Supplementary Appendix

This appendix has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

Supplement to: Hoshida Y, Villanueva A, Kobayashi M, et al. Gene expression in fixed tissues and outcome in hepatocellular carcinoma. N Engl J Med 2008;359:1995-2004. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa0804525.

## **RNA extraction**

Tumor and adjacent liver tissues were macro-dissected from 10 micron formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tissue sections. Absence of microvascular tumor invasion in the adjacent liver tissue was confirmed using  $H \& E$  staining of consecutive sections. Using 3-4 sections for each sample, total RNA was extracted using the High Pure RNA Paraffin kit (Roche) as directed by the manufacturer (training set) or TRIzol LS reagent (Invitrogen) in a semi-automated 96-well plate format based on the manufacturer's instructions (validation set).

#### **Gene expression arrays for FFPE tissues**

## *DASL assay*

To profile randomly fragmented mRNA extracted from FFPE tissue (FFPE-RNA), we employed the cDNA-mediated Annealing, Selection, extension and Ligation (DASL) assay (Illumina)<sup>1, 2</sup>. Briefly, fragmented FFPE-RNA is converted into cDNA using random primers. For each target site on the cDNA, a pair of query oligos separated by a single nucleotide is annealed to the cDNA, and, the gap between the query oligos is extended and ligated to generate a PCR template. A pair of universal PCR primers is then used for amplification, and linearly amplified PCR products are hybridized to a bead microarray. The array was then scanned by a BeadArray Reader (Illumina).

### *Number of microarray probes assigned to each gene*

Missing signals due to RNA degradation is one of the major concerns in profiling FFPE tissues. For this reason, a commercially available panel of 502 cancer-related genes for DASL assay (Cancer Panel, Illumina) assigns 3 independent probes to each gene, with the expectation that this would maximize data quality. However, the use of multiple probes per gene diminishes the number of transcripts that can be assayed per array (given a fixed number of probes per array). We therefore sought to experimentally determine the effect of reducing the number of probes per gene, so as to facilitate covering a larger number of genes with the same total number of probes. We randomly picked a single probe from among the 3 probes assigned to each gene, and evaluated how the single probe dataset performed in sample clustering and marker gene selection analyses.

First, by picking a single probe for each gene, 5~7% of measurements fell below the

level of negative control probes, suggesting either missing signals due to RNA degradation or suboptimal probe sequence (**Supplementary Figure 1A**). However, we found that such probe drop-out had little effect on overall performance of the arrays. For example, a prostate cancer vs. normal distinction was not affected by the single probe picking (**Supplementary Figure 1B**). This suggests that profiling 100s~1000s genes can compensate for the slight increase in noise caused by RNA degradation. In marker gene analysis, only a small number of genes were dropped from the top marker gene list (indicating a small number of false negatives), and no genes came to the top of the marker list in the single probe data but were absent in the dataset using 3 probes per gene (indicating no false positives) (**Supplementary Figure 1C**).

## *Designing a 6,000-gene DASL assay*

We sought to identify  $\sim 6,000$  maximally informative transcripts that could be used for genome-wide discovery on the DASL platform (configured as 4 x 1536 assays utilizing one probe per gene). To address this, we analyzed a large collection of Affymextrix transcriptome datasets profiling cancer and normal tissues.<sup>3, 4</sup> This analysis revealed that the expression signals from  $\sim$  one third of the genes on most genome-wide arrays were "absent" (**Supplementary Figure 8**). This suggests that a substantial proportion of the genome is infrequently expressed, and therefore might be omitted without great consequence. By excluding such genes, we aimed to define a generic minimum subset of genome representing the global structure of the entire transcriptome.

We designed a set of query oligos (i.e., probes) to profile transcriptionally informative genes that might be useful for signature discovery and validation. To this end, we selected genes with the largest variation across samples in a large collection of previously generated Affymetrix microarray datasets spanning 24 studies, 2,149 samples, and 15 tissue types (**Supplementary Table 8**). After filtering out genes with less than a 3-fold difference and less than 100 units between the maximum and minimum signals across the dataset, the coefficient of variation (CV) was calculated and summarized onto the NCBI's RefSeq gene IDs to compute a priority score for each gene, and genes were rank-ordered according to this score (**Supplementary Figure 9A**). An examination of published marker genes from recent studies indicated

that our list of 6,000 genes represented 70-90% of these genes, indicating that the 6,000 gene array was more informative than a random collection of 6,000 genes (which might be expected to capture only  $\sim$  25% of reported markers) (**Supplementary Figure 9B**). We then designed query oligos for the top informative 6,100 genes (NCBI's Gene Expression Omnibus, [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/,](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/) platform ID GPL5474).

## *Quality assessment of DASL profile*

As a quality measure of the DASL gene expression profile, we calculated the proportion of gene probes with a "present" signal (%P-call), which is expected to be similar across samples of a given tissue type (e.g. HCC). (Of note, the "present" call rate drops precipitously when degraded RNA typical of FFPE tissues is analyzed on conventional microarrays such as Affymetrix arrays). The "present" call was computed based on built-in negative control probes (GenePattern, IlluminaDASL pipeline). In a pilot experiment performed on 10 prostate cancer tissues, we observed %P-call of  $\sim$  75% in 2 samples fixed 24 years before RNA extraction, which was comparable to a sample fixed 7 years ago (**Supplementary Figure 9C**), indicating that data quality is not directly correlated with age of the sample.

Poor quality profiles were detected and removed as follows. We set a "median" array as a representative sample in a dataset by calculating the median for each gene. The poor quality, outlier profiles were defined based on dissimilarity to the "median" array measured by Pearson correlation coefficient. In the plot of the correlation to %P-call, we observed that the correlation sharply started to drop as %P-call became smaller than a certain value. This likely indicates that the samples with %P-call smaller than this value have severe RNA degradation affecting sensitivity of gene expression signal detection. Based on this plot, we set a quality threshold of %P-call for each tissue type to assure a minimum correlation coefficient of 0.7 for the majority of the samples (we set the %P-call quality thresholds of 65% and 70% for tumor and adjacent liver tissues, respectively, **Supplementary Figure 10**). Failure of the profiling, i.e., %P-call less than 70% in adjacent liver set, was not associated with clinical variables including age ( $p=0.49$ ), sex ( $p=0.78$ ), existence of cirrhosis ( $p=1.00$ ), Child-Pugh stage (p=0.11), HCC etiology (p $>0.70$ ), or age of the FFPE block ( $>10$ years,  $p=0.30$ ).

The same %P-call threshold was applied for the validation set. After eliminating samples with poor quality data, the raw data were normalized using the cubic spline algorithm<sup>5</sup> using the IlluminaDASL pipeline within GenePattern. Only gene probes with a minimal 3-fold differential expression and absolute difference  $>500$  units across the samples were included after applying floor and ceiling values of 200 and 80,000 units, respectively.

#### *Comparison of gene expression profiles between intact and FFPE-RNA*

First, we evaluated the extent of correlation of gene expression profile of FFPE tissue with that of fresh tissue at the level of individual genes. To ensure a uniform population of cells being subjected to the fresh and fixed analysis, we used cell lines (as opposed to tissues, which have greater intra-tissue variability which would become a confounding factor in these analyses). DHL4 and Hela cell lines were cultured, harvested, and split into two halves. Total RNA was immediately extracted from one half, and the other half was fixed with formalin and embedded in a paraffin block. Total RNA was also extracted from the FFPE block using the protocol described in the **Methods** section. All RNA samples were profiled using the DASL assay, and fold changes were calculated for each gene in a comparison between DHL4 and Hela cell lines. The plot of the fold changes for the intact and FFPE cell lines showed moderate correlation (Pearson correlation coefficient  $0.61$ ,  $p<0.001$ , **Supplementary Figure 11**). At the higher fold changes in the fresh RNA profiles, the vast majority of the genes showed concordant gene expression changes in the FFPE profiles (**Supplementary Table 9**).

Next, we determined whether the DASL profile of FFPE tissue recapitulates the biologically relevant information observed in the profile of fresh frozen tissue. For this analysis, we turned to prostate cancer, for which there exists an abundance of published microarray data derived from frozen tumor and normal tissues. We identified 200 marker genes that reflect the tumor vs. normal prostate distinction based on a meta-analysis of 7 published frozen sample-based microarray datasets collected in a cancer transcriptome database (Oncomine, [http://www.oncomine.org\)](http://www.oncomine.org/). Among those genes, 180 genes (90%) are included in our 6,100 informative gene panel. Based on the expression pattern of those marker genes, we classified a collection of FFPE tumor and normal prostate samples using a nearest template prediction method (see Data analysis section). We observed 100% accurate prediction with statistical significance (false discovery rate <0.05, **Supplementary Figure 12**), indicating that the 6,000-gene DASL assay robustly identifies biologically meaningful patterns in FFPE tissues. We also performed a meta-analysis of 3 independent frozen sample-based HCC datasets including 232 samples to define common subclasses of HCC, and found that the molecular subclasses identified in the frozen tissues were also seen in the profiles of 118 FFPE HCC tissues profiled by DASL (manuscript in preparation). We therefore conclude that our 6,000-gene DASL assay accurately recapitulates the gene expression profile of fresh frozen tissues in archived, FFPE material.

### **Data availability**

Microarray datasets are available through Gene Expression Omnibus (GSE10143) or our web site at [http://www.broad.mit.edu/cancer/pub/HCC.](http://www.broad.mit.edu/cancer/pub/HCC)

### **Data analysis**

#### *Definition of clinical outcome*

While HCC is the cause of death in most patients with the disease, some patients die of liver failure or other causes attributable to cirrhosis in the absence of progressive HCC (7 of the 39 deaths in our study died of non-HCC causes). Accordingly, we chose HCC-related mortality (disease-specific death) as the principal clinical endpoint for the survival-predictive signature discovery, defined as follows: (1) tumor occupying more than 80% of the liver, (2) portal venous tumor thrombus (PVTT) proximal to the second bifurcation, (3) obstructive jaundice due to tumor, (4) distant metastasis, or (5) variceal hemorrhage with PVTT proximal to the first bifurcation. The commonly used definition of "late recurrence" was tumor recurrence appearing more than 2 years after surgery<sup>6, 7</sup>. For late recurrence prediction, early recurrences were treated as censored observations.

### *Prognostic prediction*

Most outcome prediction studies discretize outcome in a binary fashion, creating two classes of patients: those with good outcome, and those with bad outcome. Unfortunately, this approach requires creating a boundary between the two groups that is often not obvious, and the approach works poorly with patients of intermediate outcome. In this study, we used non-discretized, censored survival time to select signature genes in order to not sacrifice sample size and to avoid the problem of setting an arbitrary cut-off of survival time. In addition, we sought to determine whether the expression of poor- and good-prognosis signature genes were coordinately regulated in a given sample. That is, it was expected that the poor signature genes would be ON (or up) and the good signature genes would be OFF (or down) in a "poor" survival sample. To evaluate this, we designed a simple nearest neighbor-based method assessing a sample's proximity to a hypothetical representative sample (template) of poor or good survival. This approach allowed us to perform single sample-based outcome prediction. The details of the method are described below.

Genes positively or negatively correlated with HCC-related survival or time-to-recurrence were selected using the Cox score<sup>8, 9</sup> using the following formula.

$$
d = \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{K} (x_k^* - d_k \overline{x}_k) \right] / \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{K} (d_k / m_k) \sum_{i \in R_k} (x_i - \overline{x}_k)^2 \right]^{1/2}
$$

where *i* is indices of samples,  $x_i$  is gene expression level for sample *i*,  $t_i$  is time for sample *i*,  $k \in 1, \dots, K$  is indices of unique death times  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_K$ ,  $d_k$  is number of deaths at time  $z_k$ ,  $m_k$  is number of samples in  $R_k = i : t_i \ge z_k$ ,  $x_k^* = \sum_{t_i = z_k} x_i$ , and  $\bar{x}_k = \sum_{i \in R_k} x_i / m_k$ . Prediction analysis was performed by evaluating the expression status of the signature using the nearest template prediction (NTP) method as implemented in the NearestTemplatePrediction module of the GenePattern analysis toolkit. Briefly, a hypothetical sample serving as the template of "poor" outcome was defined as a vector having the same length as the predictive signature. In this template, a value of 1 was assigned to "poor" outcome-correlated genes and a value of -1 was assigned to "good" outcome-correlated genes, and then each gene was weighted by the absolute value of the corresponding Cox score. The template of "good" outcome was similarly defined. For each sample, a prediction was made based on the proximity measured by the cosine distance to either of the two templates. Significance for the proximity was estimated by comparison to a null distribution generated by randomly picking (1,000 times) the same number of marker genes from

the microarray data for each sample, and correcting for multiple hypothesis testing using the false discovery rate  $(FDR)^{10}$ . A sample closer to the template of "poor" outcome with an FDR <0.05 was predicted as having poor outcome.

## *Study design to define outcome-predictive signature*

Tumor and adjacent non-tumor liver tissues from the training set were profiled separately to define an outcome-predictive signature (**Figure 1**). The signature was first internally validated in the training set using a leave-one-out cross-validation prediction procedure. A single sample was left out one-by-one and an outcome-correlated signature was selected from the remaining samples (selecting marker genes based on permutation test p-value less than 0.05). A predicted label was assigned to the left-out sample based on the closest "template" using NTP algorithm. Only genes selected in each of the leave-one-out trials were included in the outcome-predictive signatures tested on the validation set.

## *Gene Set Enrichment Analysis*

Functional annotation of the survival signature was performed by Gene Set Enrichment Analysis  $(GSEA)^{11}$ . We evaluated two categories of annotated gene sets: target genes of experimental perturbation (473 sets) and literature-based curated pathway gene sets (150 sets) collected in our molecular signature database (MSigDB, [http://www.broad.mit.edu/gsea/msigdb/index.jsp\)](http://www.broad.mit.edu/gsea/msigdb/index.jsp).

## *Survival data analysis*

Survival difference was evaluated by the log-rank test, and survival association of clinical variables and the signatures was assessed by Cox regression analysis (Survival Analysis modules, GenePattern). First, we evaluated well-accepted clinical predictors of HCC outcome<sup>6, 12</sup>: AFP, multinodularity, and vascular invasion, by univariate analysis. Only variables with statistical significance  $(p<0.05)$  were further evaluated by multivariate analysis. The hazard rate for tumor recurrence was calculated as previously described<sup>7, 13</sup> to estimate the pattern of HCC recurrence over time after surgery. GenePattern modules and pipeline used in this study are available from [http://www.broad.mit.edu/cancer/software/genepattern/.](http://www.broad.mit.edu/cancer/software/genepattern/) All other clinical data analyses were performed using the R statistical package [\(http://www.r-project.org\)](http://www.r-project.org/).

### **Clonality analysis**

We profiled 5 pairs of primary and recurrent HCC tumors, 2 pairs of adjacent non-tumor liver tissues, and Hela cells for SNPs using the LinkagePanel beadarray (Illumina) according to the manufacturer's instructions<sup>14</sup>. Genotype calls were generated using BeadStudio software (Illumina). In order to address whether primary tumors and recurrences likely derived from the same clone, we analyzed the pattern of heterozygosity in each of the samples. In particular, we counted how many loci appeared homozygous in the primary tumor, yet were called as heterozygous at recurrence. Such cases would suggest that primaries and recurrences derived from different clones, given that regions of LOH in a primary tumor (appearing homozygous on SNP arrays) would likely appear the same in recurrences if the recurrences derived from the same clone (**Supplementary Table 7A**). We similarly analyzed pairs of primary and recurrence/metastasis tumor tissues in endometrial  $(n=3)$ , ovarian  $(n=4)$ , lymphoma  $(n=6)$  and renal  $(n=3)$  cancers to estimate the same measure of clonality in other, non-HCC tumor types (**Supplementary Table 7B**). Strikingly, the HCC pairs showed a significantly higher proportion of loci that appeared homozygous in the primary tumor, yet appeared heterozygous at recurrence (p=0.008, Wilcoxon rank sum test). Similarly, there were more loci that were heterozygous in the HCC primary and homozygous at recurrence, compared to other tumor types (p=0.001) (**Supplementary Figure 7**).

### **Outcome prediction using HCC tissue data**

We determined whether other machine-learning classifiers based on the binary classes (i.e., "good" and "poor" prognosis) predict outcome in the profiles of HCC tissues. We tested multiple classification methods including Classification of Regression Tree (CART), k-nearest neighbor (k-NN), weighted voting (WV), and support vector machine (SVM), but as shown in **Supplementary Table 10**, these methods also failed to yield statistically significant predictions  $(p=0.34$  for survival and  $p=0.92$  for recurrence. Log-rank test). This result indicates that the failed HCC tissue-based outcome prediction by our method is not due to selection of classification algorithm.

#### **Survival signature in fresh frozen non-tumor liver**

We confirmed that the survival signature was readily detectable in a publicly available, independent dataset of fresh frozen non-tumor liver tissues (GSE6764)

(**Supplementary Figure 13**). Prediction was performed using the nearest template prediction method (see description in **Supplementary Appendix**).

## **Patient survival in validation set according to geographic site**

A trend toward survival separation was also seen within each geographic site in the validation set (i.e., U.S., Spain and Italy), although this did not reach statistical significance due to the small sample size and/or insufficient follow-up time in each site (**Supplementary Figure 14**).

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Univariate Cox regression of clinical variables for patient survival (Training set)



HB: hepatitis B, HCV: hepatitis C virus, AFP: alpha-fetoprotein

Survival signature genes defined in adjacent liver tissue (defined in Training set)

Genes correlated with poor survival Probe ID GeneID Gene symbol Description Cox score DAP1\_5052 2488 FSHB follicle stimulating hormone, beta polypeptide 4.80 DAP1\_0153 6456 SH3GL2 SH3-domain GRB2-like 2 4.21 DAP1\_2390 23029 RBM34 RNA binding motif protein 34 4.19 DAP3\_3833 23397 NCAPH non-SMC condensin I complex, subunit H 4.02 DAP1\_0623 1950 EGF epidermal growth factor (beta-urogastrone) 3.97 DAP1\_5926 7204 TRIO triple functional domain (PTPRF interacting) 3.90<br>DAP3\_3842 1293 COL6A3 collagen, type VI, alpha 3 3.87 1293 COL6A3 collagen, type VI, alpha 3 DAP1 0171 3983 ABLIM1 actin binding LIM protein 1 3.86 DAP3\_0607 3680 ITGA9 integrin, alpha 9 3.81 DAP4\_5449 4922 NTS neurotensin 3.78 DAP3\_1324 5055 SERPINB2 serpin peptidase inhibitor, clade B (ovalbumin), member 2 3.69 DAP3\_1228 4316 MMP7 matrix metallopeptidase 7 (matrilysin, uterine) 3.59 DAP3\_4010 5593 PRKG2 protein kinase, cGMP-dependent, type II 3.44 DAP4\_1888 9170 EDG4 endothelial differentiation, lysophosphatidic acid G-protein-coupled 3.40 DAP3\_0208 4843 NOS2A nitric oxide synthase 2A (inducible, hepatocytes) 3.33 DAP1\_4004 2043 EPHA4 EPH receptor A4 3.25 DAP4 2216 6672 SP100 SP100 nuclear antigen 3.19 DAP2\_0010 2326 FMO1 flavin containing monooxygenase 1 3.04 DAP3\_2729 2877 GPX2 glutathione peroxidase 2 (gastrointestinal) 3.02 DAP3\_5508 496 ATP4B ATPase, H+/K+ exchanging, beta polypeptide 2.99 DAP1 5176 8870 IER3 immediate early response 3 2.98 DAP4\_5988 7456 WIPF1 WAS/WASL interacting protein family, member 1 2.98 DAP1\_3877 3489 IGFBP6 insulin-like growth factor binding protein 6 2.93 DAP1\_0897 1501 CTNND2 catenin (cadherin-associated protein), delta 2 (neural plakophilin-related  $\alpha$  arm-repeat protein)  $\alpha$  arm-repeat protein)  $\alpha$  arm-repeat protein)  $\alpha$ DAP3\_5371 2200 FBN1 fibrillin 1 2.91 DAP4\_5022 2629 GBA glucosidase, beta; acid (includes glucosylceramidase) 2.85<br>DAP1\_4874 22858 ICK intestinal cell (MAK-like) kinase 2.85 DAP1\_4874 22858 ICK intestinal cell (MAK-like) kinase DAP1\_3085 10523 CHERP calcium homeostasis endoplasmic reticulum protein 2.81 DAP3\_3881 9734 HDAC9 histone deacetylase 9 2.81 DAP3\_1658 51406 NOL7 nucleolar protein 7, 27kDa 2.80 DAP3\_0609 8826 IQGAP1 IQ motif containing GTPase activating protein 1 2.79 DAP3\_3158 120 ADD3 adducin 3 (gamma) 2.79 DAP3\_3933 306 ANXA3 annexin A3 2.78 DAP2\_5915 10362 HMG20B high-mobility group 20B 2.76 DAP1\_0174 6558 SLC12A2 solute carrier family 12 (sodium/potassium/chloride transporters), member 2.75 DAP2\_3448 1282 COL4A1 collagen, type IV, alpha 1 2.75 DAP4\_3126 1359 CPA3 carboxypeptidase A3 (mast cell) 2.74 DAP3\_1093 3855 KRT7 keratin 7 2.74 DAP1\_1741 5271 SERPINB8 serpin peptidase inhibitor, clade B (ovalbumin), member 8 2.69 DAP3\_1042 4791 NFKB2 nuclear factor of kappa light polypeptide gene enhancer in B-cells 2 2.67 DAP3 5816 165 AEBP1 AE binding protein 1 2.67 DAP3\_3879 7041 TGFB1I1 transforming growth factor beta 1 induced transcript 1 2.66 DAP1\_0509 2013 EMP2 epithelial membrane protein 2 2.63 DAP2 3497 596 BCL2 B-cell CLL/lymphoma 2 2.63 DAP3\_2152 5698 PSMB9 proteasome (prosome, macropain) subunit, beta type, 9 (large proceasome (prosome, macropam) subunit, beta type,  $\frac{1}{2}$  (large 2.59 multifunctional peptidase 2) DAP3\_6062 10097 ACTR2 ARP2 actin-related protein 2 homolog (yeast) 2.59 DAP1\_6137 780 DDR1 discoidin domain receptor family, member 1 2.58 DAP2\_3913 6541 SLC7A1 solute carrier family 7 (cationic amino acid transporter, y+ system), 2.56 DAP4 2003 5420 PODXL podocalyxin-like 2.56 DAP1\_5750 1307 COL16A1 collagen, type XVI, alpha 1 2.55 DAP1\_3284 10437 IFI30 interferon, gamma-inducible protein 30 2.55 DAP3 1596 9852 EPM2AIP1 EPM2A (laforin) interacting protein 1 2.55 DAP3\_1678 301 ANXA1 annexin A1 2.53 DAP3\_4123 6366 CCL21 chemokine (C-C motif) ligand 21 2.47<br>DAP3\_1610 22856 CHSY1 carbohydrate (chondroitin) synthase 1 2.45 22856 CHSY1 carbohydrate (chondroitin) synthase 1 2.45 DAP1\_4020 162 AP1B1 adaptor-related protein complex 1, beta 1 subunit 2.45 DAP4\_2797 7004 TEAD4 TEA domain family member 4 2.39 DAP4\_2406 54898 ELOVL2 elongation of very long chain fatty acids (FEN1/Elo2, SUR4/Elo3, yeast)- 2.39 DAP1\_0054 6925 TCF4 transcription factor 4 2.38<br>DAP3 1020 9819 TSC22D2 TSC22 domain family, member 2 2.38 2.38 DAP3\_1020 9819 TSC22D2 TSC22 domain family, member 2 DAP4\_2418 1847 DUSP5 dual specificity phosphatase 5 2.36







Functional annotation of Survival signature by Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (Training set) (For details of each gene set, click the name for the link to MSigDB gene set annotation page)

## **(a) Gene sets correlated with poor survival**





## **(b) Gene sets correlated with good survival**





NES: normalized enrichment score, FDR: false discovery rate

Gene expression-based survival prediciton and histological inflammation of the liver (Training set)



Fisher's exact test, p=0.89

Scored according to Batts K, Ludwig J. Am J Surg Pathol 19:1409,1995

Univariate Cox regression analysis of clinical risk factors (Validation set)







## Survival



AFP: alpha-fetoprotein

Multivariate Cox regression: subgroup analysis (Validation set)



AFP: alpha-fetoprotein

Clonality analysis of paired primary and recurrent HCC



\*Molecular subclasses of HCC defined by a meta-analysis of published frozen sample-based microarray datasets (Hoshida et al. Manuscript in preparation).

"Heterozygous in recurrence" / "Homozygous in primary" in adjacent non-tumor liver tissues of hcc\_082, hcc\_075, and Hela cells were 0.1% (4/3759), 0.6% (20/3275), and 0.3% (10/3701), respectively.

"Homozygous in recurrence" / "Heterozygous in primary" in adjacent non-tumor liver tissues of hcc\_082, hcc\_075, and Hela cells were 0.6% (11/1869), 2.3% (38/1676), and 0.7% (8/1216), respectively.



Clonality analysis of paired primary and recurrent/metastatic non-HCC tumors

DLBCL: diffuse large B-cell lymphoma

Endometrial, ovarian, and renal cancers were profiles on Afymetrix 500k SNP array. DLBCL samples were profiled on Affymetrix SNP 6.0 array.

Datasets used to select Transcriptionally Informative Genes



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\*: Panel of multiple tissue types

Concordance in gene expression change (DHL4 vs. Hela cell lines) between intact and FFPE-RNA on DASL assay



Leave-one-out cross-validation error rates for outcome prediction using HCC tissue data (Training set).



CART: classification and regression trees,

k-NN: k-nearest neighbor,

WV: weighted voting,

SVM: support vector machine

## **Supplementary Figure legends**

### **Supplementary Figure 1**

Effect of missing gene expression signals by reducing the number of probes for each gene in the DASL assay. A: Missing signals by reducing the number of probes assigned for each gene. Left panel shows expression levels of 502 cancer-related genes (Cancer Panel, Illumina) computed as average of 3 independent probes for each gene. Right panel shows signals falling below the level of negative control probes (black bars) by randomly picking a single probe from the 3 probes representing each gene. B: Hierarchical clustering using 5 datasets generated by randomly picking 1 probe from the 3 probes. C: Comparison of rank of top HCC marker genes (top and bottom 20 genes) between 1-probe and 3-probe datasets.

### **Supplementary Figure 2**

A: Leave-one-out cross validation-based survival prediction using FFPE HCC tissues. B: Previously reported survival-predictive signature (Lee, et al. Hepatology 40:667,2004) recapitulated in the dataset (left panel) without association with survival (right panel).

## **Supplementary Figure 3**

A: Leave-one-out cross validation-based survival prediction using publicly available gene expression dataset of fresh frozen HCC tissues (n=67, NCBI Gene Expression Omnibus dataset accession # GSE9843). B: Previously reported survival-predictive signature (Lee, et al. Hepatology 40:667,2004) recapitulated in the dataset (left panel) without association with survival (right panel).

## **Supplementary Figure 4**

Smoothed tumor recurrence hazard over time after surgery for training (A) and validation (B) sets. There is no peak of early recurrence in training set.

## **Supplementary Figure 5**

Survival curves according to the grade of hepatitis activity (based on Batts and Ludwig. Am J Surg Pathol 19:1409,1995) in the training set.

Overall recurrence curves in the validation set according to the prediction made by the late recurrence-predictive signature (132 genes, A) and the overall recurrence-predictive signature (174 genes, B). C: Correlation between survival- and late recurrence-predictive signatures: genes on microarray were rank-ordered according to their correlation with survival time, and subset of late recurrence signature genes associated with higher (upper panel) or lower (lower panel) risk of late recurrence was separately evaluated for its overrepresentation on poor survival or good survival side in the rank-ordered gene list, respectively, using Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (p<0.001, see **Supplementary Appendix**). Early recurrences (< 2 years following resection) are censored in the analysis of late recurrence. Red and blue lines indicate prediction of higher and lower risk of late/overall recurrence, respectively.

### **Supplementary Figure 7**

Assessment of clonality between primary and recurrent tumors. A: The panel shows how many homozygous loci in the primary tumors appear to be heterozygous in paired recurrent tumors. B: The panel shows how many heterozygous loci in the primary tumors appear to be homozygous in paired recurrent tumors. DLBCL: diffuse large B-cell lymphoma.

### **Supplementary Figure 8**

"Present" gene expression signals in genome-wide microarray datasets profiling panels of multiple human tissue types. A: Panel of cancer tissues (PNAS 2001;98:15149, [http://www.broad.mit.edu/cancer/\)](http://www.broad.mit.edu/cancer/). B: Panel of normal tissues (PNAS 2004;101;6062, [http://www.gnf.org/\)](http://www.gnf.org/). Red color indicates "present" (i.e., expressed) genes.

## **Supplementary Figure 9**

Selection process for 6,000 transcriptionally informative genes in the DASL assay. A: In each of previously generated 24 microarray datasets, coefficient of variation (CV) was calculated for each gene and summarized on to the list of NCBI RefSeq ID. B: The top 6,000 genes cover 70-90% of genes in microarray-based signatures (375 gene

sets) and literature-based molecular pathways (450 gene sets) collected in Molecular Signature Database (MSigDB), C: Age of FFPE blocks and %P-call in 10 prostate cancer samples. Red arrow head indicates samples fixed 24 years before RNA extraction; blue arrow head indicates a sample fixed 7 years before RNA extraction.

## **Supplementary Figure 10**

Quality assessment of DASL profile based on the proportion of "present" (i.e., expressed) genes (%P-call) in the training set. Correlation coefficient of each array to the "median" array was plotted against %P-call for tumor (left) and adjacent liver (right) profiles from the training set. For each tissue type, quality threshold was defined as a %P-call where the correlation starts to drop. Green lines indicate %P-call threshold of 65% and 70% for tumor and liver profiles, respectively. The same quality threshold was applied to the profiles from validation set.

## **Supplementary Figure 11**

Comparison of gene expression fold change between intact and FFPE-RNA.

## **Supplementary Figure 12**

Prediction of prostate cancer using the DASL profile of marker genes defined by a meta-analysis of published 7 frozen sample-based microarray datasets.

## **Supplementary Figure 13**

The survival signature in a publicly available independent dataset of fresh frozen non-tumor liver tissues (n=10).

### **Supplementary Figure 14**

Survival curves for three geographic sites in the validation set: US (n=88, median follow-up 2.4 years), Spain (n=45, median follow-up 3.1 years), and Italy (n=92, median follow-up 1.9 years). A: Overall survival. B: Survival curves according to the survival prediction. Red lines indicate poor survival prediction; blue lines indicate good survival prediction.

A



## Missing signals Average of 3 probes by using 1 probe





Non-tumor liver **Hepatocellular carcinoma** 

# Supplementary Figure 1B,C







B









B













C





Gene probes with "Present" call

# Supplementary Figure 9A,B







A Tumor profiles B Adjacent liver profiles





(log2 fold change)

DHL4/Hela (Intact RNA)







B